

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 were examined and reported in the Office Action. Claims 1-3, 6-19 and 22-28 are rejected. Claims 4-5 and 20-21 are cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 17 and 24 are amended. New claims 29-40 are added. Claims 1-3, 6-19, and 22-40 remain.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

A. It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,311,079 issued to Ditlow et al. ("Ditlow"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's amended claims 1 and 17 contain the limitations of "...wherein an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the first sub-PLA is interleaved with an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the second sub-PLA."

As asserted in the Office Action, "the prior art of record does not teach wherein an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the first sub-PLA is interleaved with an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the second sub-PLA," and therefore, claims re-written containing these limitations would be allowable. (Office Action, page 7, paragraph 8).

Therefore, since Ditlow does not disclose, teach or suggest all of Applicant's amended claims 1 and 17 limitations, Applicant respectfully asserts that a *prima facie* rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has not been adequately set forth relative to Ditlow. Thus, Applicant's amended claims 1 and 17 are not anticipated by Ditlow. And, claims 1 and 17 are therefore allowable.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejections for claims 1 and 17 are respectfully requested.

B. It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 10, 12-14, 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Simulation based architectural power estimation for PLA-based Controllers*, August 1996, Low Power Electronics and Design, 1996, International Symposium on, 12-14, Pages: 121-124, Katkoori et al. ("Katkoori"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant has amended claims 10 and 24, for which claims 12-14, and 26, respectively depend on, to contain the limitations of "... wherein an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of a first sub-PLA is one of interleaved and separated with an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of a second sub-PLA."

As asserted in the Office Action, "the prior art of record does not teach wherein an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the first sub-PLA is interleaved with an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the second sub-PLA; and the OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the first sub-PLA is separated from an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of the second sub-PLA, and therefore, claims re-written containing these limitations would be allowable." (Office Action, page 7, paragraph 8).

Therefore, since Katkoori does not disclose, teach or suggest all of Applicant's amended claims 10 and 24 limitations, Applicant respectfully asserts that a *prima facie* rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has not been adequately set forth relative to Katkoori. Thus, Applicant's amended claims 10 and 24 are not anticipated by Katkoori. Additionally, the claims that depend directly or indirectly on claims 10 and 24, namely claims 12-14, and 26, respectively, are also not anticipated by Katkoori for the above same reason. And, claims 10, 12-14, 24 and 26 are therefore allowable.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), rejections for claims 10, 12-14, 24 and 26 are respectfully requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. It is asserted in the Office Action that Claims 2-3, 6-9, 18-19 and 22-23 are rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ditlow in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 6,492,835 issued to Shau ("Shau"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

As asserted above in section I(A), claims 1 and 17 contain limitations not taught by the prior art. Therefore, since claims 2-3 and 6-9 depend on amended claim 1, and claims 18-19 and 22-23 depend on amended claim 17, claims 2-3, 6-9, 18-19 and 22-23 are allowable.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections for Claims 2-3, 6-9, 18-19 and 22-23, are respectfully requested.

B. It is asserted in the Office Action that Claims 11 and 25 are rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Katkoori in view of Shau. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's claim 11 depends on amended claim 10, which is allowable as asserted above. Applicant's claim 25 depends on Applicant's amended claim 24, which contains the limitations of "... wherein an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of a first sub-PLA is one of interleaved and separated with an OR plane of the topological circuit representation of a second sub-PLA." Since amended claim 24 contains limitations not taught by the prior art (see Office Action, page 7, paragraph 8), Applicant's claim 25 is also allowable for the same reason.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections for Claims 11 and 25 are respectfully requested.

C. It is asserted in the Office Action that Claims 15-16 and 27-28 are rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Katkoori in view of Ditlow. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's claims 15 and 16 depend on amended claim 10, which is allowable as asserted above. Applicant's claims 27 and 28 depend on Applicant's amended claim 24, which is also allowable as asserted above. Therefore, Applicant's claims 15-16 and 27-28 are also allowable for the same reason.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections for Claims 15-16 and 27-28 are respectfully requested.

III. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's assertion that claims 4-5 and 20-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 4. Applicant has added new claim 29, which includes the limitations of claim 1 and claim 5. Applicant has amended claim 17 to include the limitations of claim 20. Applicant has added new claim 36, which includes the limitations of claim 17 and claim 21.

Also, Applicant has amended claims 10 and 24 to also contain allowable subject matter as asserted in the Office Action on page 7, paragraph 8.

Therefore, as it now stands, Applicant asserts that claims 1-3, 6-19 and 22-40 are allowable for the reasons given above.

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CONCLUSION

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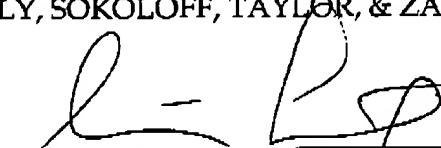
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-3, 6-19, and 22-40 patentably define the subject invention over the cited references of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be useful in moving the case forward, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: September 18, 2003

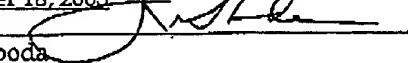
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Jean Svoboda